

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State collegiate sports programs which admirably demonstrate the true value of sportsmanship, competition, training, drive, and determination; and

Whereas, the Missouri Western State College football Griffons team attained considerable distinction during the 2003 season by garnering a 9-3 win-loss tally which has entered the record books as the best in the school's history; and

Whereas, the Griffons completed the year as MIAA co-champions who remained undefeated at home and who beat every Missouri Division II team on their schedule; and

Whereas, on December 6, 2003, with temperatures hovering in the mid-30s, the Griffons football players capped their year's achievements by defeating the Concordia-St. Paul Golden Bears through a decisive score of 24-14 to claim the Mineral Water Bowl title; and

Whereas, Missouri Western State College's football Griffons were productively trained and led by Head Coach Jerry Partridge, a Missouri Western State College alumnus and the fifth head coach since the football program's inception, with assistance from Defensive Coordinator Jay Bubak, Offensive Coordinator Doug Smith, Offensive Line Coach Les Boyum, and Defensive Line Coach Matt Williamson; and

Whereas, although the Griffons will lose eight starters, the remaining players and new recruits look forward to the 2004 competitive season when they can build on the team's past performance and possibly add another trophy to the trophy case; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the Missouri House of Representatives pause to acknowledge milestone events in the history of such exemplary Missouri sports teams as the Missouri Western State College football Griffons:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the spectacular competitive season engaged in by the Griffons football team and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's heartiest congratulations upon winning the Mineral Water Bowl which was held on December 6, 2003, in Excelsior Springs, Missouri; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Missouri Western State College 2003 football Griffons.

Offered by _____
Representative Ed Wildberger
District No. 27

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4814, adopted December 11, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker